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DATE: December 1, 2004
CLIENT NO.: R2184.0097-B
MESSAGE TO: Primary Examiner Gautam R. Patel
COMPANY: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; Art Unit 2655
FAX NUMBER: 703-872-9314
PHONE: 571-308-7940
FROM: Mark J. Thronson
PHONE: (202) 775-4742

PAGES (Including Cover Sheet): 7 **HARD COPY TO FOLLOW:** YES NO

Please file the attached Amendment in U.S. Patent Application No. 10/620,351. Applicant's undersigned representative certifies that the attached Amendment is being filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office by facsimile transmission on December 1, 2004.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark J. Thronson', is placed over a horizontal line.

Mark J. Thronson, Reg. No. 33,082

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PAGE 1/8 * RCVD AT 12/1/2004 6:13:21 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/2 * DNIS:8729314 * CSID:202 887 0689 * DURATION (mm:ss):02:52

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Docket No.: R2184.0097/P097-B
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Masaki Katoh et al.

Application No.: 10/620,351

Confirmation No.: 8926

Filed: July 17, 2003

Art Unit: 2655

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Examiner: G. Patel

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street S.
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Arlington, VA 22202
Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated September 1, 2004 (Paper No. 20040829), please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

DSMDB.1846733.1

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